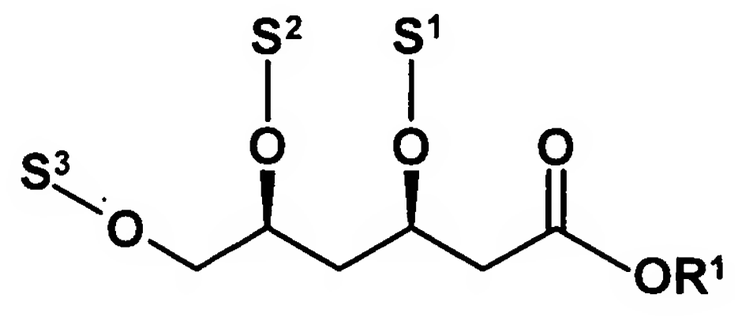
Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of a statin, comprising the following steps:

a) ~~Preparation of~~preparing a compound of the formula II



(II),

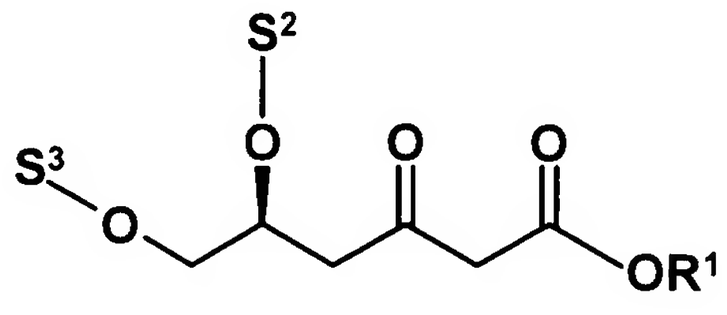
in which

S^1 denotes a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl protective group,

S^2 and S^3, independently of one another, denote hydroxyl protective groups, and

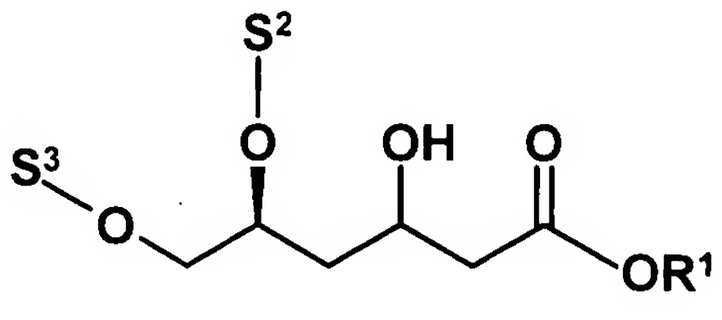
R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl protective group,

by stereoselective hydrogenation of a compound of the formula III



(III)

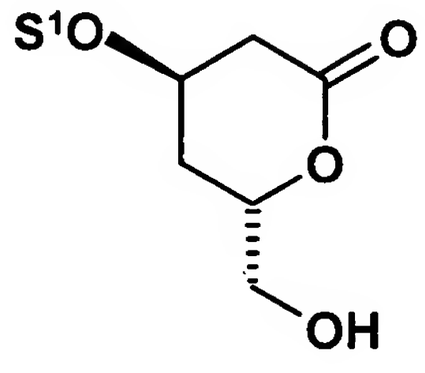
to give a compound of the formula II-a



(II-a)

and optionally ~~introduction of~~introducing a hydroxyl protective group; and

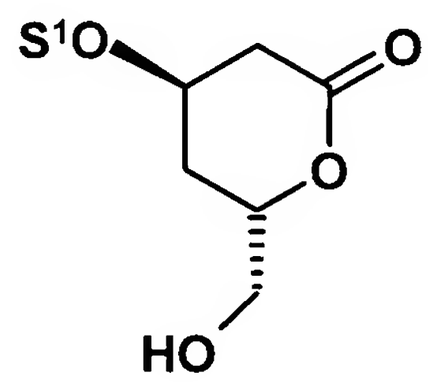
b) ~~lactonization of~~lactonizing the compound of the formula II to give a compound of the formula I-a



(I-a).

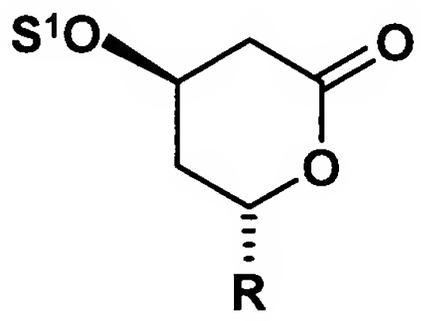
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, comprising the further step of

c) ~~conversion of~~converting the compound of the formula I-a



(I-a)

into a compound of the formula I

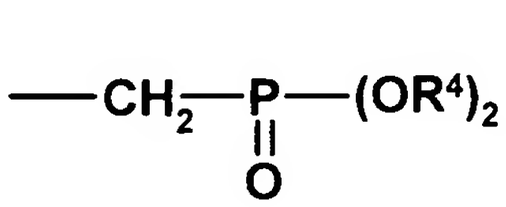


(I),

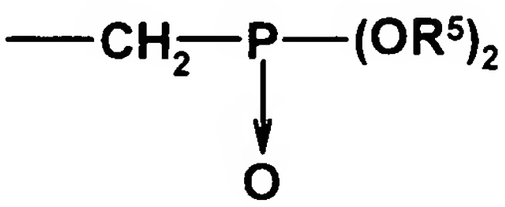
wherein the radical

S^1 is as defined in Claim 1,

R denotes $-CH_2R^2$, -CHO, $-CH=P(R^3)_3$, $-CH_2-P^+(R^3)_3M^-$,



or

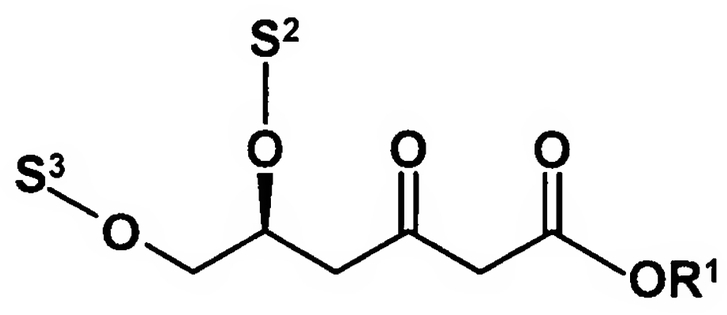


,

R^2	denotes a halogen atom, -C≡N, $-CH_2NH_2$, $-SO_2-R^6$ or a leaving group,
R^3, R^4 and R^5	complete a Wittig radical or a Horner-Wittig radical,
R^6	denotes a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3}-alkyl or a C_{5-10}-aryl radical, which are optionally substituted by one or more radicals which, independently of one another, are selected from halogen atoms, heterocycles which contain 0 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 10 heteroatoms selected from sulphur, nitrogen and oxygen atoms, and functional groups, and
M^-	represents an opposite ion.

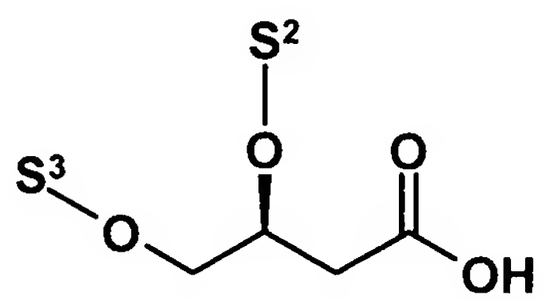
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, comprising the step of:

~~preparation of~~preparing a compound of the formula III



(III)

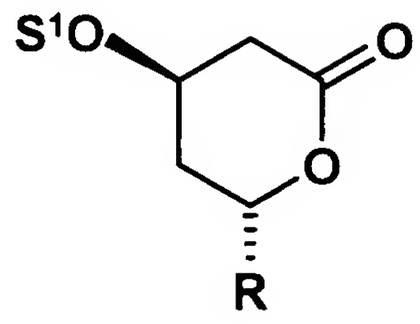
by chain extension of a compound of the formula IV



(IV).

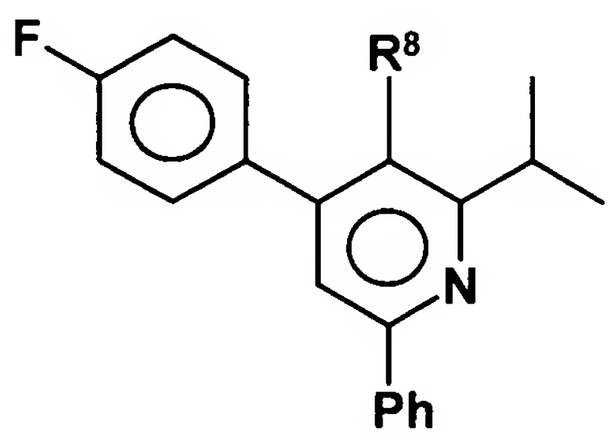
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein the compound of the formula I ~~being~~ is converted into the statin by one of the following processes ~~steps~~ and then optionally ~~by opening of~~opening the lactone ring and optionally ~~by removal of~~removing the protective groups:

a) ~~reaction of~~reacting a compound of the formula (I)



(I),

in which the radical R represents a CHO group and the radical S^1 is as defined in Claim 1, with a compound of the formula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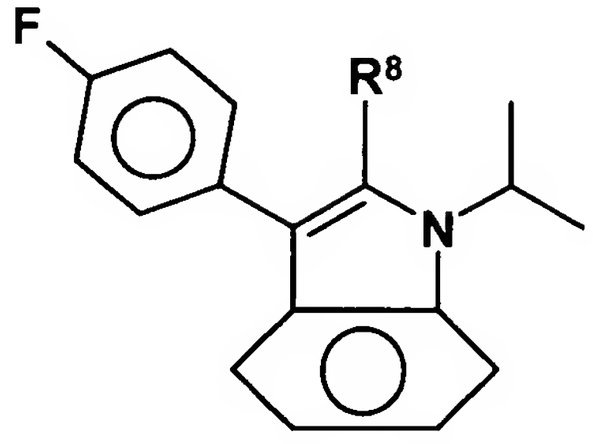
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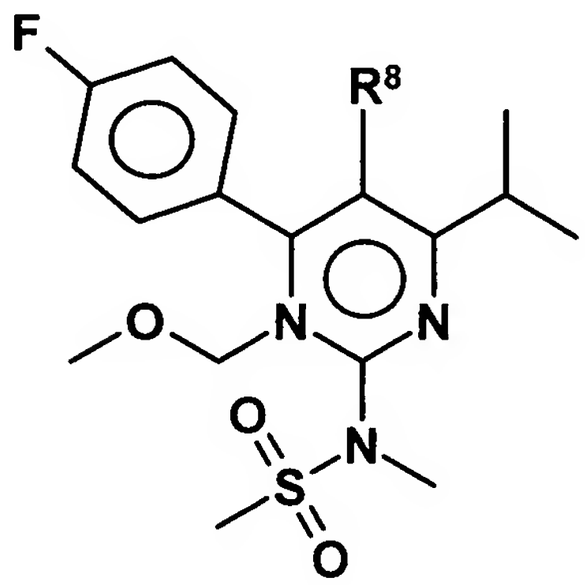
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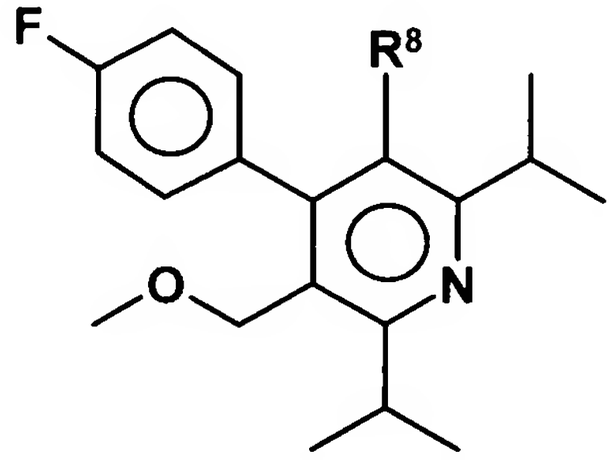
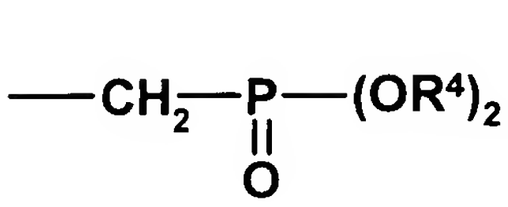
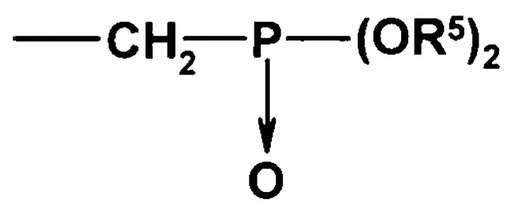

;

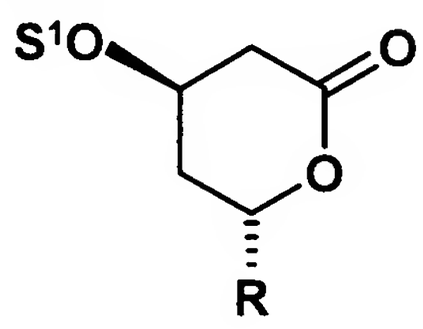
in which

R^8 denotes $-CH=P(R^3)_3$, $-CH_2-P^+(R^3)_3M^-$,


or

,

where R^3, R^4, R^5 and M are as defined in Claim 1,

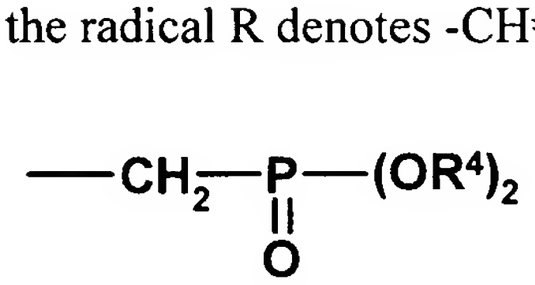
b) ~~reaction of~~reacting a compound of the formula I



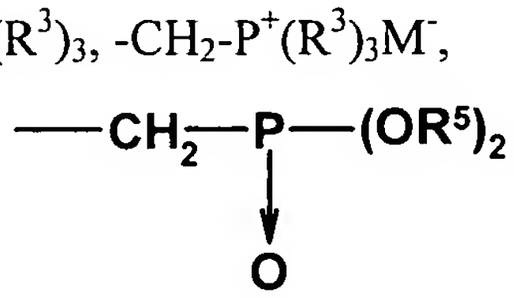
(I),

in which

the radical R denotes $-CH=P(R^3)_3$, $-CH_2-P^+(R^3)_3M^-$,

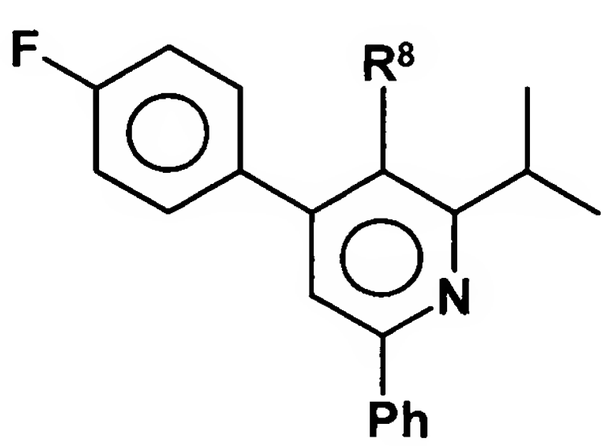


or



,

with a compound of the formula



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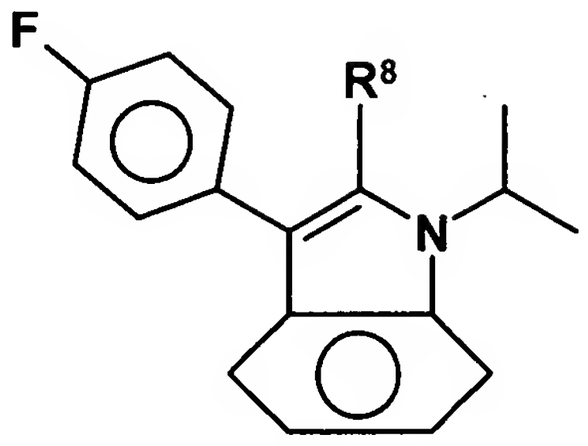

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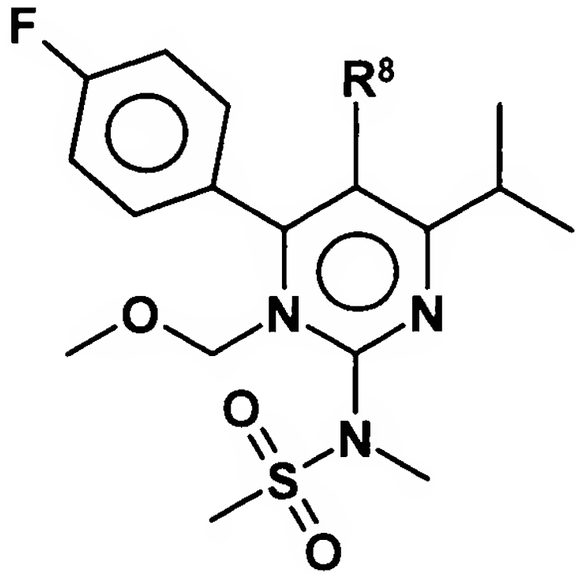
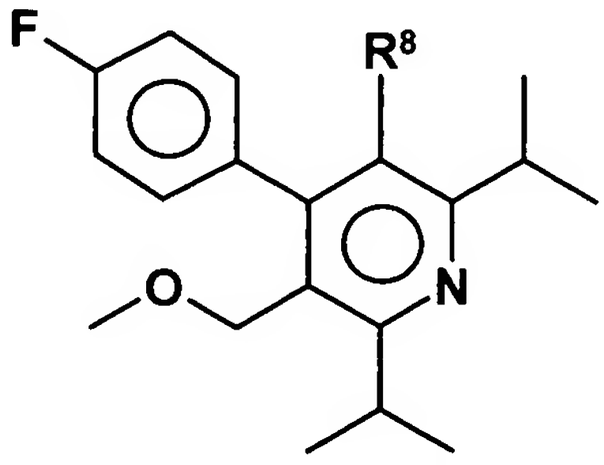


or

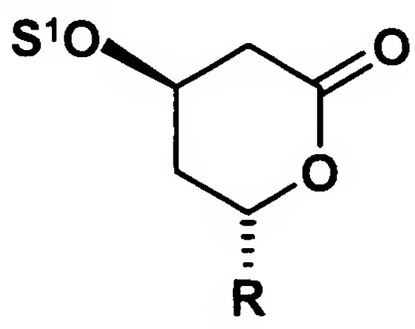


in which

R^8 denotes –CHO,

where R^3, R^4, R^5 and M are as defined in Claim 1,

c) ~~reaction of~~reacting a compound of the formula I

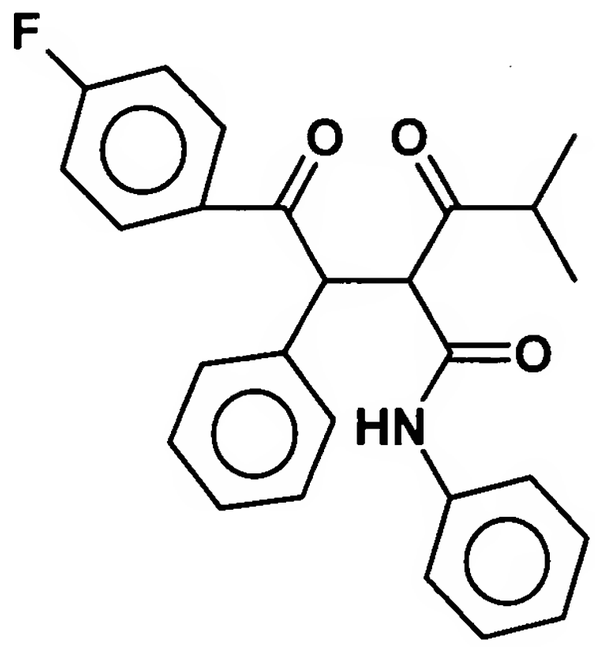


(I),

in which

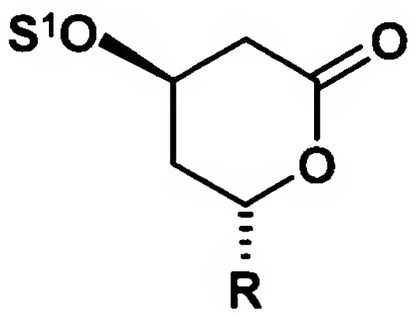
the radical R is a group $-CH_2-C\equiv N$,

~~Hydrogenation~~ hydrogenating the compound of the formula I in which the radical R is a group $-CH_2-C\equiv N$, to give a compound of the formula I in which the radical R is a group $-CH_2-CH_2NH_2$, and ~~reaction of~~ reacting the compound of the formula I in which the radical R is a group $-CH_2-CH_2NH_2$ with a compound of the formula V



(V),

d) ~~hydrogenation of~~hydrogenating a compound of the formula I

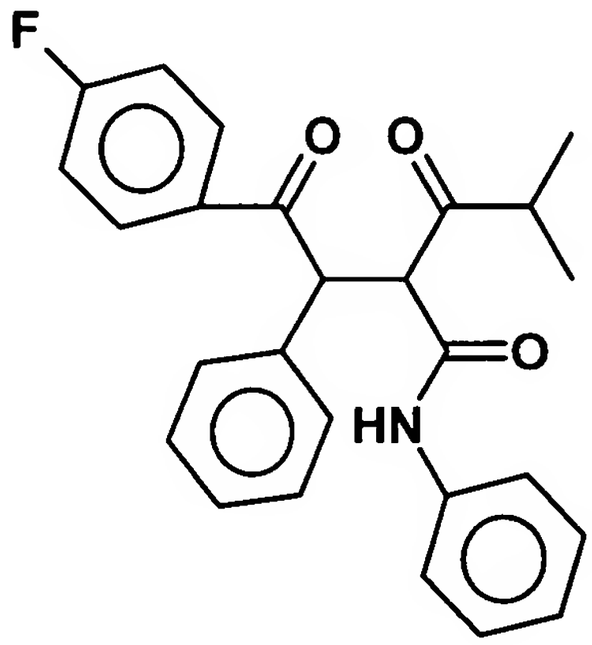


(I),

in which

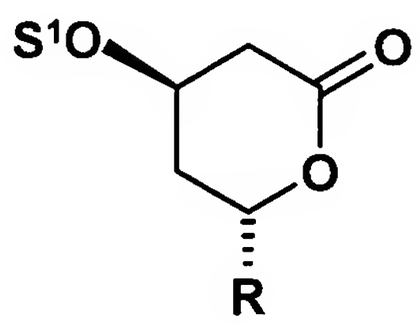
the radical R is a group -CH_2-C≡N, to give a compound of the formula I in which the radical R is a group -CH_2-CH_2NH_2,

and ~~reaction of~~reacting the compound of the formula I in which the radical R is a group -CH_2-CH_2NH_2 with a compound of the formula V



(V), and

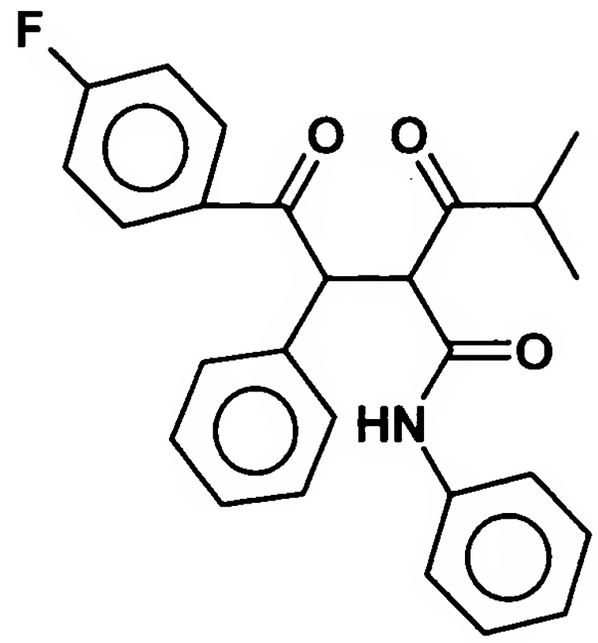
e) ~~reaction of~~reacting a compound of the formula (I)



(I),

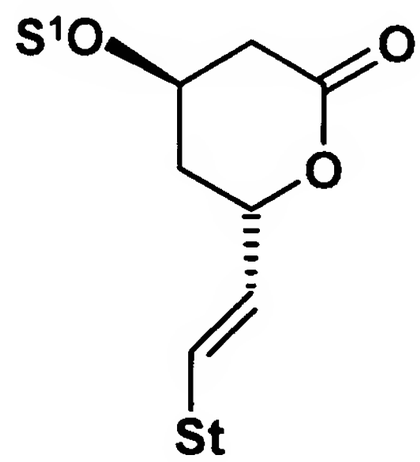
in which

the radical R is a group -CH_2-CH_2NH_2, with a compound of the formula V



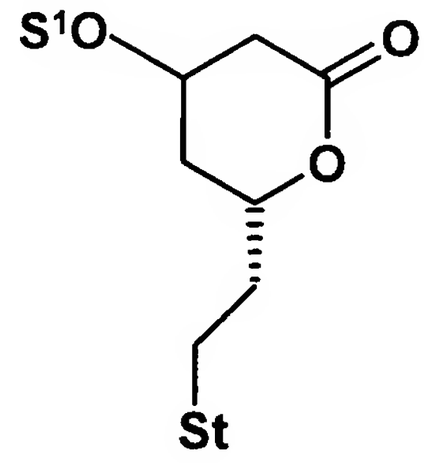
(V).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, characterized in that a compound of the formula



,

in which S^1 is as defined in Claim 1 and St represents the radical of the statin, is converted into a compound of the formula



by catalytic hydrogenation, and optionally the protective group S^1 is removed and optionally the lactone ring is opened.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the hydroxyl protective group S^1 ~~being~~ is selected from a trimethylsilyl, triisopropylsilyl, trimethylsilylethyl, tert-butyldimethylsilyl, tert-butylmethylsilyl, di-tert-butylmethylsilyl, tert-butyldiphenylsilyl, triphenylsilyl, diphenylmethylsilyl, tris(trimethylsilyl) and para-tosyl protective group.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein the protective groups S^2 and S^3 ~~being~~ are bridged.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 7, wherein the protective groups S^2 and S^3 together represent~~ing~~ an isopropylidene protective group.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 2 ~~to 7~~, wherein the radical R ~~representing~~ represents a radical CH_2R^2 and R^2 ~~representing~~ represents a leaving group, the leaving group being selected from a halogen atom, ~~and~~ a radical $-OSO_2-C_1-C_6$-alkyl, ~~or~~ and $-OSO_2-C_5-C_{10}$-aryl.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 9~~, wherein the radical R^1 ~~denoting~~ denotes a hydrogen atom, ~~or~~ a C_{1-3}-alkyl, or a C_{4-10}-aryl radical, each of which ~~are~~ may be optionally substituted by one or more radicals, which, independently of one another, are selected from halogen atoms, heterocycles which have 0 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 10 heteroatoms selected from sulphur, nitrogen and oxygen atoms, and functional groups.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 10~~, wherein

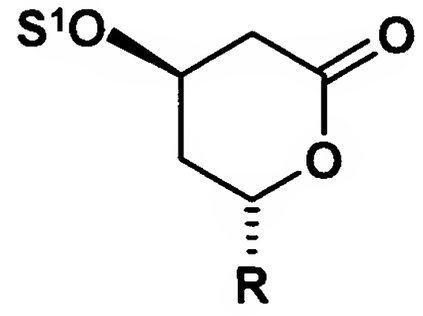
R^3 ~~denoting~~ denotes a C_5- to C_{10}-aryl radical which is optionally substituted by one or two C_1-C_4-alkyl radicals and/or halogen atoms, a C_1-C_4-alkyl radical or a C_5-C_{10}-cycloalkyl radical,

R^4 ~~denoting~~ denotes a C_1-C_4-alkyl radical, and

R^5 ~~denoting~~ denotes a C_1-C_6-alkyl or C_5-C_{10}-aryl radical.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 11~~, wherein the statin ~~being~~ is fluvastatin, rosuvastatin, cerivastatin, glenvastatin or atorvastatin.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Compound~~ A compound of the formula I

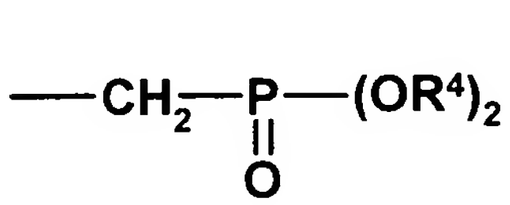


(I),

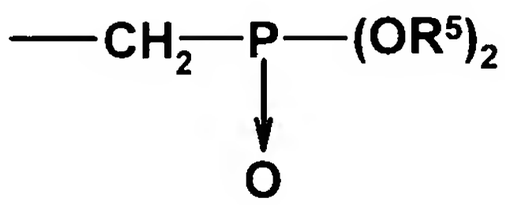
in which

S^1 and R are as defined in Claim 2, with the proviso that the radical S^1 does not represent a tert-butyldimethylsilyl group if the radical R represents a CHO, $-CH_2$-OTos, $-CH_2Cl$ or $-CH_2I$ group.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Compound~~ A compound according to Claim 13, in which the radical S^1 represents a tert-butyldimethylsilyl group and the radical R represents a $-CH_2R^2$, $-CH=P(R^3)_3$, $-CH_2-P^+(R^3)_3M^-$,

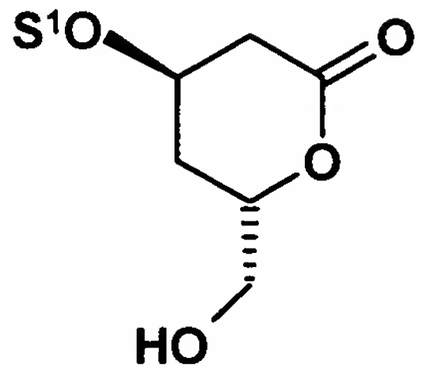


or



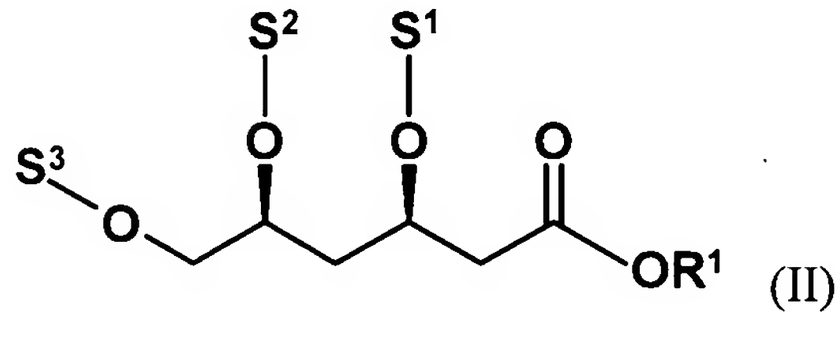
group, wherein R^2 represents a bromine atom, a $-C\equiv N$, a $-CH_2NH_2$ group or a radical $-SO_2-R^6$, and R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6 and M are as defined in Claim 2.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The process for the preparation of a compound of a formula (I-a)



(I-a)

in which the radical S^1 is as defined in Claim 1, characterized in that a compound of the formula II



(II)

in which

S^1, S^2, S^3 and R^1 are as defined in Claim 1, is converted into the compound of the formula I-a by lactonization.